

Title I

Migrant Education Program (MEP)

- Objective: to support state and local programs meeting the special educational needs of the migratory children.
- Formula grant to the states, and subgrants from state to local entities.
- Migrant programs are authorized under Part C of Title I.

Eligibility Criteria

- A child is eligible for the MEP if:
 1. The child is younger than 22 and has not graduated from high school or does not hold a high school equivalency certificate (this means that the child is entitled to a free public education or is of an age below compulsory school attendance; *and*
 2. The child is a migrant agricultural worker or a migrant fisher *or* has a parent, spouse, *or* guardian who is a migrant agricultural worker or a migrant fisher; *and*
 3. The child has moved within the preceding 36 months in order to obtain (or seek) or to accompany (or join) a parent, spouse, or guardian to obtain (or seek), temporary or seasonal employment in qualifying agricultural or fishing work; *and*
 4. Such employment is a principal means of livelihood; *and*
 5. The child:
 - a. Has moved from one school district to another; *or*
 - b. In a State that is comprised of a single school district, has moved from one administrative area to another within such district; *or*
 - c. Resides in a school district of more than 15,000 square miles and migrates a distance of 20 miles or more to a temporary residence to engage in a fishing activity. (This provision currently applies only to Alaska).
- Any child, birth through age 21, who meets the statutory definition of “migratory child,” (see criteria above) may be served by the MEP. However, only children ages 3-21 may be counted for State funding purposes.

Uses of the Funds

- MEP funds are used to provide supplementary educational and support services to meet the special educational needs of migratory children of migratory agricultural worker.
- MEP is supposed to supplement Title I services for migrant children, not replace Title I services.
- MEPs are to be linked with local school reform efforts.

Eligible Services

- MEP funds may be used for any activity designed to meet the special needs of the targeted children (migratory children).
- Each LEA receiving MEP funds has the flexibility to determine the activities to be provided with MEP funds.

Examples of Eligible Services

- academic instruction.
- bilingual and multicultural instruction.
- guidance and counseling.
- vocational education.
- preschool services.
- other educational services not adequately available to eligible children in the regular classroom.
- acquisition of instructional materials and equipment.
- professional development for school personnel to enhance their ability to identify and respond to the needs of migrant students.

Priority for Service

- An LEA receiving MEP funds shall give priority to Migratory children:
 - who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet LEA challenging content standards and challenging student performance standards; *and/or* whose education has been interrupted during the regular school year.

English Language Learners (ELL)

- ELL children must be selected for services under both regular Title I, Part A and the MEP on the same basis as other children.
- **Part A and MEP funds may not be used to provide services that are required to be made available by other laws.**

2006-07 Migrant Education Program Sites

- AGWSR CSD
- Alta CSD
- Boyden-Hull CSD
- Clarke CSD
- Columbus Junction CSD
- Coon Rapids-Bayard CSD
- Denison CSD
- Estherville Lincoln Central CSD
- Lenox CSD
- Marshalltown CSD
- Ottumwa CSD
- Perry CSD

- Postville CSD
- Sioux Center CSD
- Sioux City CSD
- Storm Lake CSD
- Waterloo CSD
- West Liberty CSD
- West Sioux CSD
- Williamsburg CSD

Resources

- Midwest Migrant Education Resource Center (MMERC)
 - Services and educational materials are available, free of charge, to any Iowa district with enrolled migrant students.
 - Materials include:
 - Audiovisuals
 - Books, including many which are bilingual or multicultural
 - Games and manipulatives for hands-on learning
 - Teacher and parent references
 - Materials appropriate for the ELL
 - Teacher workshops, in-services or site visits to meet specific needs as determined by State migrant departments.

Contact Information

Donna Eggleston, Consultant

Title 1 and Migrant Education

Iowa Department of Education

(515) 281-3999

donna.eggleston@iowa.gov